

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03

STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 CEQ-02 COA-02

DODE-00 EPA-04 L-03 NSF-04 NSC-10 PM-07 SCI-06 SS-20

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 HEW-08 SCEM-02 INT-08 DRC-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6086

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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OECD PLEASE PASS HERTER

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SUBJ: US-EC ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION

REF: EC BRUSSELS 6113

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1. SUMMARY. US AND EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS MET ON NOVEMBER 26 TO DISCUSS A PROGRAM OF COOPERATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT. THE TALKS WENT WELL AND IT WAS AGREED THAT A FOLLOW UP MEETING BETWEEN EXPERTS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON IN FEBRUARY 1974. AT THAT MEETING THERE WILL BE A DISCUSSION OF EFFECTS DATA AND MEASUREMENT METHODS FOR THE FOLLOWING SIX POLLUTANTS: LEAD AND LEAD COMPOUNDS, SULPHUR COMPOUNDS AND SUSPENDED PARTICLES, NITROGEN OXIDES, CARBON MONOXIDE, MERCURY, AND CADMIUM. THERE WAS ALSO AGREEMENT TO DISCUSS EPIDEMIOLOGY, TOXICITY TESTING AND NOISE POLLUTION AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING. IF PROGRESS IS MADE ON THE ABOVE SUBJECTS, THE SCOPE OF COOPERATION COULD BE BROADENED AT LATER MEETINGS. THE TWO SIDES ALSO AGREED TO INFORMAL CONTACTS PRIOR TO MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL MEETINGS AND SPECIFICALLY AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORTING THE OECD STUDY ON POLLUTION COSTS. PRIVATELY, THE COMMISSION EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN ABOUT THE US-GERMAN BILATERAL AGREEMENT'S COMPLICATING US-EC COOPERATION.

END SUMMARY.

2. US AND EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS MET ON NOVEMBER 26 TO DISCUSS A PROGRAM OF COOPERATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT. REPRESENTING THE US WERE HENRY BRODIE OF STATE, FOREST ABBUHL OF COMMERCE, ROBERT PORTER AND VAUN NEWILL OF EPA AND ALSTON HAYNE OF CEQ. THE EC COMMISSION SIDE WAS LED BY MICHEL CARPENTIER, DIRECTOR OF THE COMMISSION DEPARTMENT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSUMER PROTECTION. THE MEETING WAS A FOLLOW UP TO HERTER-SCARASCIA MUGNOZZA TALKS OF OCTOBER 24 REPORTED IN REFTEL. THE MEETING WAS BUSINESSLIKE, WENT VERY WELL AND BOTH SIDES AGREED ON SPECIFIC AREAS OF HIGH PRIORITY WHERE THEY BELIEVED COLLABORATION WOULD BE FRUITFUL. BOTH SIDES DECIDED THE BEST PROCEDURE WOULD BE TO START WITH A LIMITED NUMBER OF VERY SPECIFIC AREAS OF COOPERATION. IF USEFUL RESULTS WERE ACHIEVED IN THESE AREAS, ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS OF COOPERATION WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN.

3. THERE WAS AGREEMENT TO HOLD A MEETING IN EARLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FEBRUARY IN WASHINGTON BETWEEN US AND EC EXPERTS SINCE A GROUP FROM THE EC COMMISSION WOULD BE COMING TO WASHINGTON TO PREPARE FOR A JOINT EC-EPA-WHO (WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION) SYMPOSIUM ON THE ASSESSMENT OF HEALTH EFFECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION TO BE HELD IN PARIS IN JUNE. AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING THERE WILL BE DISCUSSION OF EFFECTS DATA, AND MEASUREMENT METHODS FOR THE FOLLOWING SIX POLLUTANTS: LEAD AND LEAD COMPOUNDS,

SULPHUR COMPOUNDS AND SUSPENDED PARTICLES, NITROGEN OXIDES, CARBON MONOXIDE, MERCURY AND CADMIUM.

4. THERE WAS ALSO AGREEMENT THAT AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING THE TWO SIDES WOULD DISCUSS RESEARCH BEING UNDERTAKEN IN THE US AND THE EC ON EPIDEMIOLOGY AND TOXICITY TESTING. REGARDING EPIDEMIOLOGY, THE COMMISSION IS TESTING 15,000 CHILDREN IN EIGHT COMMUNITY COUNTRIES FOR THE EFFECTS OF POLLUTION ON CHRONIC PULMONARY DISEASES IN CHILDREN. THE US HAS A REPORT IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHESSE PROGRAM. BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED A MUTUAL CONCERN FOR TOXICITY TESTING.

5. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THERE SHOULD BE DISCUSSION ON NOISE POLLUTION AND THAT AN AGENDA FOR THE FEBRUARY MEETING WOULD BE PREPARED IN ADVANCE.

6. THE US SIDE EXPRESSED INTEREST RE EXCHANGING INFORMATION ON INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION CONTROL FOR SELECTED INDUSTRIES BUT CARPENTIER WAS HESITANT. HE SAID THAT AT THIS TIME IT WAS A DELICATE SUBJECT FOR THE COMMISSION SINCE THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION BETWEEN THE MEMBER COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, HE AGREED SUCH EXCHANGES WOULD BE USEFUL IF LIMITED TO THE BEST PRACTICAL TECHNOLOGY. THIS COULD BE THE SUBJECT OF A LATER MEETING SOMETIME IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1974. HE DID POINT OUT THAT THE COMMISSION WAS UNDERTAKING STUDIES OF POLLUTION IN THE PULP AND PAPER INDUSTRY, THE STEEL INDUSTRY AND IN THE PRODUCTION OF TITANIUM DIOXIDE.

7. BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED INTEREST IN TOXIC WASTE AND AGREED THAT IT COULD BE AN AREA FOR DISCUSSION AT A LATER MEETING. IN THE MEANTIME BOTH SIDES AGREED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXCHANGE AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON LAWS, REGULATIONS, STUDIES, ETC.

8. THE COMMISSION SIDE (ORLOWSKI) INTRODUCED THE SUBJECT OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES. THE US SIDE RESPONDED THAT IT WAS NOT ADEQUATELY REPRESENTED FOR DETAILED DISCUSSIONS ON THE PRESENT OCCASION, AND NOTED THAT THE USAEC HAS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS AREA. ORLOWSKI SAID THE EC HAD A SIX MILLION DOLLAR, FOUR-YEAR CONTRACT FOR SPECIFIC RESEARCH PROJECTS IN THIS FIELD. THE EC IS INTERESTED IN FINDING MEANS OF SEPARATING TRACES OF PLUTONIUM FROM LIQUID WASTES, IN DETERMINING TYPES OF MANAGEMENT TO USE WITH HIGH LEVEL WASTES, IN LOCATING POSSIBLE GEOLOGICAL AND "ENGINEERED" STORAGE SITES IN EUROPE, IN QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE TIMING AND

TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIGH LEVEL WASTES FROM
INDUSTRY TO GOVERNMENT, AND IN MOVING WASTES FROM ONE
POLITICAL JURISDICTION TO ANOTHER. ORLOWSKI SAID THE EC
WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY AVAILABLE US MATERIAL
ON ABOVE QUESTIONS.

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9. IT WAS AGREED THAT AN AD-HOC CONSULTATION ON
PROBLEMS OF LAND-BASED MARINE POLLUTION MIGHT BE

USEFUL. THE COMMISSION WILL INFORM US ON AN INFORMAL BASIS OF RESULTS OF THE FRENCH SPONSORED DECEMBER 1973 MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT.

10. THE TWO SIDES TALKED ABOUT AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEFORE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL MEETING SUCH AS LAW OF THE SEAS AND UN ENVIRONMENT MEETING. IT WAS AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE TO GET TOGETHER INFORMALLY PRIOR TO THE LAW OF THE SEAS MEETING IN MAY. CARPENTIER IDENTIFIED FISHING AND MARINE POLLUTION AS TWO AREAS OF INTEREST TO THE EC.

11. IT WAS AGREED THAT THERE WOULD BE AN EXCHANGE OF DOCUMENTS ON ENERGY AS IT EFFECTS THE ENVIRONMENT AS WELL AS IN OTHER SPECIFIED AREAS.

12. IT WAS AGREED THAT BOTH SIDES SHOULD GIVE EVERY SUPPORT TO THE ONGOING OECD STUDY ON INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION CONTROL COSTS AND SHOULD ENCOURAGE THEIR RESPECTIVE INDUSTRIES TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY DATA.

13. CARPENTIER BROUGHT UP THE MATTER OF PROCEDURE AND NOTED THAT BEFORE HE COULD FOLLOW THROUGH ON THE INFORMAL COOPERATION PROGRAM DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING, HE WOULD HAVE TO INFORM THE COMMISSION. HE ANTICIPATED NO DIFFICULTIES FROM THE COMMISSION. HE SAID THE COMMISSION WOULD DECIDE IF AND WHEN THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE INFORMED. HE AND BRODIE AGREED THAT ALL ASPECTS OF THE US-EC COOPERATION PROGRAM SHOULD BE COORDINATED AND THEREFORE ANY FUTURE MEETINGS OF TECHNICAL SUBGROUPS SHOULD BE REPORTED BACK TO TODAY'S COMMITTEE, WHICH WOULD BE THE "COORDINATING COMMITTEE".

14. CARPENTIER TERMINATED THE MEETING BY SAYING THAT IN ADDITION TO THE MEETING IN FEBRUARY, A SECOND IN JUNE OR JULY AND A THIRD MEETING IN OCTOBER COULD FOLLOW.

15. AFTER FORMAL DISCUSSIONS CARPENTIER INFORMED BRODIE PRIVATELY HE WOULD BE MEETING WITH HERTER IN PARIS NOVEMBER 27 TO EXPRESS THE COMMISSION'S CONCERN THAT THE PROPOSED US-GERMAN BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON ENVIRONMENT WOULD UNDERMINE US-EC COOPERATION. BRODIE ASSURED CARPENTIER THAT THE PRIMARY US INTEREST IS TO HELP THE COMMISSION DEVELOP A STRONG COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM AND WE HOPE TO USE THE US-GERMAN BILATERAL TO REINFORCE THIS OBJECTIVE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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16. COMMENT: IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT AT THE LUNCHEON FOLLOWING THE MEETING, CARPENTIER VOLUNTEERED THE IDEA THAT IN THE LIGHT OF CURRENT OVERALL DIFFICULTIES IN THE US-EC RELATIONSHIP, IT IS USEFUL TO DEVELOP OUR COOPERATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS. A COMMISSION OFFICIAL (UBALDO ZITO) COMMENTED THAT COOPERATION COULD BE CONSOLIDATED DURING THE EXPECTED VISIT OF COMMISSIONER SCARASCIA-MUGNOZZA TO WASHINGTON IN MAY OR JUNE (SEE REFTEL). END COMMENT.GREENWALD

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